## 10/58216982611 - GAU: 2819 AP3 Rec'd PCI/PTO 12 JUN 2007

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Hiroto TOMITA et al.

Mail Stop: PCT

Serial No. NEW

Attorney Docket No. 2006 0422A

Filed June 12, 2006

VARIABLE-LENGTH-CODE DECODING **DEVICE** 

[Corresponding to PCT/JP2005/004863

Filed March 11, 2005]

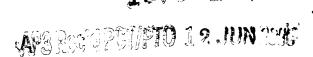
## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

|     | [X]   | each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;  |  |  |  |  |
|-----|---|--|--|--|--|--|
|     | D   | each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/; and/or                                      |  |  |  |  |
|     | D   | each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No.   |  |  |  |  |
| 1a. | [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted: |  |  |  |  |  |
|     |   | within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or |  |  |  |  |



before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
- 1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 2. It is hereby certified
  - a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure

    Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a

    counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of
    the Statement, or
  - b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

## AP3 Rec'd PCT/PTO 12 JUN 2005

- 3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
- 4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
  - a. [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
  - b. [X] an International Search Report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
  - c. [] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
  - d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - e. [X] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:

JP 2002-261623 corresponds to US 2002/0164080 JP 2001-202236 corresponds to US 2001/0010074 JP 9-233429 corresponds to US 5,923,815 JP 2002-516501 corresponds to US 2003/0043917

5. [X] an International Search Report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroto TOMITA et al.

Jeffrey R. Filipek

Registration No. 41,471 Attorney for Applicants

JRF/fs Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 June 12, 2006

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Sheet 1 of 1 ATTY DOCKET NO FORM PTO 1449 (mod. red) NEW 2006\_0422A U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE APPLICANT Hiroto TOMITA et al. LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary ) **GROUP FILING DATE** Date Submitted to PTO: June 12, 2006 June 12, 2006 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS FILING DATE IF NAME CLASS SUBCLASS DOCUMENT DATE \*EXAMINER APPROPRIATE NUMBER INITIAL Igarashi et al. 11-7-02 2002/0164080 AA 2001/0010074 7-26-01 Nishihara et al. ΑB Park 7-13-99 AC 5,923,815 3-6-03 Bublil et al. 2003/0043917 AD FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS CLASS SUBCLASS **TRANSLATION** DOCUMENT DATE COUNTRY YES NO NUMBER abstract 5-17-02 Japan AG 2002-141807 abstract AΗ 2002-261623 9-13-02 Japan abstract 2000-261324 9-22-00 Japan Αl abstract AJ 2000-50263 2-18-00 Japan abstract ΑK 2003-347927 12-5-03 Japan abstract 2001-202236 7-27-01 AL Japan 9-233429 9-5-97 Japan abstract AM abstract AN 2002-516501 6-4-02 Japan OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) AO AP AQ 11/12/2009 DATE CONSIDERED **EXAMINER** /Joseph Lauture/

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include cop. this form with next communication to applicant.